

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 189924

70

ORIGIN NEA-04

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /005 R

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R 242145Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

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FOLLOWING REPEAT TEHRAN 6796 ACTION SECSTATE INFO LONDON
KUWAIT JIDDA DHAHRAN 24 SEPT

QUOTE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE TEHRAN 6796

BEIRUT PASS USINT BAGHDAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINS, IR

SUBJ: STRIKE AT ABADAN REFINERY

1. SITUATION AT ABADAN REFINERY WORSENS AS STRIKE ENTERS SECOND DAY. 3,800 EMPLOYEES NOW ON STRIKE AND PRODUCTION HAS FALLEN FROM 480,000 BARRELS PER DAY TWO DAYS AGO TO 220,000 BARRELS PER DAY. STRIKE HAS SPREAD TO NIOC FACILITIES AT BANDAR MASHAHR AND REFINERY OFFICIALS ARE CONCERNED THAT WORKERS IN THE FIELDS MAY ALSO JOIN IN. WORKERS DEMANDING 20 PERCENT INCREASE IN SALARIES TO OFFSET RISING FOOD COSTS. MANAGEMENT NOT EXPECTED TO OFFER MORE THAN 10 TO 15 PER CENT SINCE ANY INCREASE GIVEN REFINERY WORKERS WOULD HAVE TO BE MET BY SIMILAR HIKE TO OIL COMPANY EMPLOYEES ELSEWHERE IN COUNTRY. MASOUD FORUGHI, NIOC'S DEPUTY CHAIRMAN BASED IN ABADAN IS PRESENTLY IN TEHRAN FOR TALKS WITH DR EQBAL. OFFICIALS
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HERE FEEL IF STRIKE NOT SETTLED SOON, MATTER WILL BE TAKEN TO

SHAH.

2. THERE HAS BEEN NO VIOLENCE AND POLICE ARE NOT INVOLVED. SAVAK
UNITS HAVE BEEN SENT TO REFINERY TO INSURE SECURITY. WILL ADVISE
ON FURTHER DEVELOPMENTS.

HELMS UNQUOTE RUSH

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Concepts: PETROLEUM PRODUCTION, REFINERIES, LABOR STRIKES
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Disposition Authority: collinp0
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